

NEW SOUTH WALES LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

HOUSE IN REVIEW



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The *House in Review* provides regular updates of the activities of the New South Wales Legislative Council. Clicking on a hyperlink will take you to the relevant webpage. For further information refer to the NSW Parliament website www.parliament.nsw.gov.au or contact the Procedure Office on (02) 9230 2431. To be placed on the email distribution list please contact us on council@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

Overview

The highlight of proceedings in the Council this week was the introduction of the Aboriginal Languages Bill by the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Mrs Mitchell. In recognition of the bill's historic significance the House agreed to several unprecedented or unusual procedures for its consideration of the bill. In addition two further government bills were introduced and three others agreed to. The House debated three disallowance motions, two private members' bills and a private member's motion.

The House stands adjourned to Tuesday 17 October 2017.

Introduction of the Aboriginal Languages Bill

[The bill](#) is the first legislation in any state in Australia to recognise the importance of Aboriginal languages. It acknowledges that Aboriginal languages are part of the culture and identity of Aboriginal people, establishes an Aboriginal Languages Trust governed by Aboriginal people that will facilitate and support Aboriginal language activities to reawaken, nurture and grow Aboriginal languages, and requires the development of a strategic plan for the growth and nurturing of Aboriginal languages.

In recognition of the historic significance of these measures, the House agreed to suspend standing orders to allow a number of unprecedented or unusual procedures to be followed for its consideration of the bill. Once the House had agreed to the initial motion for leave to introduce the bill, the President left the chair while proceedings took place to commemorate the bill, including a welcome to country and smoking ceremony in the parliamentary forecourt.



The smoking ceremony in the forecourt.

A message stick ceremony was then held in the chamber with a number of elders and Aboriginal language stakeholders speaking about the significance of Aboriginal languages and this legislation. The final speaker handed the message stick to Minister Mitchell and the message stick ceremony participants took seats in the President’s Gallery to the left and right of the President. Upon the President taking the chair and the House again being in session, the President invited two Aboriginal elders to take chairs on the dais while the bill was being debated.



The message stick ceremony in the chamber.

Minister Mitchell is presented with the message stick.

In speaking to the provisions of the bill as outlined above, the Minister (Mrs Mitchell) noted that in 1788 there were an estimated 35 languages and over 100 dialects in what is now New South Wales. The minister said that governments in the past had sought to eliminate first languages and that languages had been passed on in secret or preserved in cultural institutions. The minister also noted the critical role of language in preserving history and the links between people and the land, the importance of language learning for Aboriginal students at school, and recent surveys showing an increase in the number of people speaking an Aboriginal first language at home. The minister went on to describe the genesis of the bill and various phases in its development including two rounds of community consultation. The minister drew attention to key provisions of the bill including the preamble which has a symbolic and a practical significance.

According to the resolution of the House, Minister Mitchell invited Dr Ray Kelly, an academic researcher in indigenous languages, to firstly translate into Dhungutti her acknowledgement of the traditional owners and later to speak to the significance of the bill. Dr Kelly reflected on a range of matters including the role of elders who with little or no resources have and passed on to younger generations a sense of place and identity and the importance of the bill as a framework for achieving improvements in Aboriginal communities.

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr Searle, spoke in support of the bill noting among other things the decline in Aboriginal language groups since 1788, attempts by white settlement to destroy Aboriginal identity by silencing Aboriginal languages and the central role of language in human experience. Mr Searle also argued that the measures proposed in the bill could have been implemented by executive action but that their inclusion in legislation has an important symbolic resonance. Two cross bench members, Revd Mr Nile (CDP) and Ms Walker (The Greens) also spoke in support of the bill.

According to resolution of the House resumption of debate on the second reading of the bill was set down for five calendar days ahead.

First speech of the Honourable Wes Fang

On Wednesday 11 October 2017 the Honourable Wes Fang (The Nationals) gave his first speech. The speech was made in accordance with the new practice which enables a member to give his or her first speech without any question before the chair.

Motions to disallow three regulations on biodiversity conservation

On Tuesday 10 October 2017, Dr Faruqi (The Greens), by leave, moved in globo three motions to disallow three regulations which have been made under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*: the Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017, the Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Biodiversity Conservation) Regulation 2017, and the Biodiversity Conservation (Savings and Transitional) Regulation 2017.

The Greens argued that the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme established by the Regulations will allow for the destruction of biodiversity in one area in exchange for promises to protect biodiversity in another even if that area was never under threat, resulting in the loss of threatened species and habitat and exacerbating the problem of climate change. The Greens further argued that there is no requirement to ensure that like-for-like offsetting of biodiversity is maintained, that offsetting obligations can be met by making a payment to a fund, and that prescribed biodiversity actions include measures which are removed from the concept of offset such as conducting a survey and doing research.

The Opposition supported the disallowance. It argued that the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme is unsupported by science, will increase the clearing of native habitat, will reduce soil and water quality and the ability to combat climate change, and does not take account of the issues raised in submissions by key stakeholders such as the Royal Zoological Society of NSW. The Opposition also stated that while it accepts that biodiversity offsetting can be done the new rules are too loose and need to be reviewed.

The Government opposed the disallowance motions arguing that the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme aims to maintain a healthy, productive and resilient environment consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development and that the offset scheme is a scientifically robust and transparent system. The Government also stated that the reforms reflect recommendations of an independent panel of scientific experts, follow extensive consultation, will provide greater connectivity between conservation areas, and will allow the relevant fund to acquire and manage areas of high-value biodiversity conservation.

The motion was negated on division (15:17).

Government business

Note: Government business includes Government bills introduced or carried by ministers in the Council.

[Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment \(Sydney Drinking Water Catchment\) Bill 2017](#)

House of origin: Legislative Assembly

The bill amends the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and *State Environmental Planning Policy (Sydney Drinking Water Catchment) 2011* in order to clarify the application of the neutral or beneficial water quality test in the case of an application for a continued development consent relating to the Sydney drinking water catchment. The bill also validates the development consent granted on 21 September 2015 in relation to the Springvale mine extension and validates any other development consent that would have been valid under the test so clarified.

The bill was presented in response to a recent decision of the Supreme Court relating to the Springvale mine development consent. The validity of the consent granted by the Planning Assessment Commission to the Springvale mine was originally upheld by the Land and Environment Court on the grounds that the

impact on water quality under the continued development consent was likely to be less than the impact under the existing consent. However, the Supreme Court on appeal determined that in the case of such continued development the basis for the water quality test must be the actual water quality before the development, and not the water quality under the current mining activities which were due to cease under the existing approvals.

The Mount Piper power station, which contributes about eleven per cent of the State's grid electricity, is totally dependent on the coal supplied by the Springvale mine.

Given the potential adverse consequences for Springvale mine operations and Mount Piper power station, the Supreme Court did not declare the development consent invalid, but instead gave the final orders back to the Land and Environment Court. The Land and Environment Court is due to hear submissions from 16 October this year. The bill has the effect of terminating the court proceedings.

In his second reading speech, the Minister for Energy and Resources (Mr Harwin) said that the bill by validating the State significant development consent for the Springvale mine will ensure the continued supply of coal to the Mount Piper power station which is critical to jobs, energy affordability and energy security. The Minister stated that without Mount Piper the State faced almost certain electricity blackouts this coming summer and that is why the Government has acted swiftly. The Minister argued the decision by the Supreme Court overturned the long-held understanding of how water quality tests operate and that it was necessary to clarify this for on-going development in the Sydney drinking water catchment. The Minister emphasised that nothing in the bill would result in a reduction in the level of water quality currently required by planning legislation or development consents. Indeed, a new water treatment plant will be in operation by July 2019, treating water from the coal seams currently discharged without treatment into the Coxs River.

The Opposition supported that part of the bill that ensured the ongoing operation of the Springvale mine, noting the importance of securing the State's energy supply and the importance of the mine to the economy and the Lithgow community. However, the Opposition opposed the measures that sought to change the provisions relating to the operation of the water quality test and to extend their application to any existing development consent in the catchment area. The Opposition argued that the bill changed rather than clarified the law regarding the operation of the water quality test, and that it was diminishing the level of protection afforded to the drinking water catchment.

The Christian Democratic Party stated that it supported the bill on the grounds of the overwhelming need to ensure energy security and to protect employment in the local community. The CDP agreed that the bill matches the law with long held government departmental practice regarding water quality tests.

The Greens were strongly opposed to the bill, arguing that the Springvale mine poses too great a threat to the Sydney drinking water catchment and noting the number of times the mine had breached its environmental licence in the past. The Greens said the community expected the highest possible standards with respect to water catchment protection and that while these had been incrementally improved over time, the bill represents a retrograde step by diminishing these protections.

The Greens moved that the question on the second reading of the bill be amended to instead refer the bill to Portfolio Committee No. 4 for inquiry and report. The amendment was supported by the Animal Justice Party only and was defeated on division (6:30). The second reading was then agreed to, with the House dividing along the same lines (30:6).

In the committee stage, the Opposition sought to remove those parts of the bill not related to securing the on-going operation of the Springvale mine. The Opposition was supported by the Greens, who had also circulated identical amendments, and by the Animal Justice Party. However, the amendments were opposed by the Government and the Christian Democratic Party and were negatived (Division 16:19). The Greens then moved an amendment to have the Act commence on a day after 1 November 2017, thus

allowing the Land and Environment Court time to issue the final orders for the Springvale case. Ultimately, the amendment drew the support of the Animal Justice Party only, with the Opposition stating that while it had the utmost respect for the rule of law it could not support the amendment on the basis of the urgent need to provide certainty regarding the continued operation of the Springvale mine. The amendment was negatived (Division 6:30).

The bill was reported without amendment, read a third time and returned to the Assembly.

Road Transport Amendment (Driver Licence Disqualification) Bill 2017

House of origin: Legislative Assembly

The bill amends the *Road Transport Act 2013* to change the penalties for driver licence disqualification so as to make them fairer and more effective in reducing unauthorised driving and repeat offending. The Parliamentary Secretary (Mr Colless) identified a number of issues concerning the current driver licence disqualification framework. For example, long disqualifications have been found not to be an effective deterrent to unauthorised driving but they can have serious adverse social impacts, particularly on vulnerable people and people in regional areas, as long disqualifications affect their ability to travel for education and employment. The Parliamentary Secretary also noted that disqualifications contribute to the over-representation of Aboriginal people in the criminal justice system, with more than 14 per cent of those sentenced and almost a third of those imprisoned for unauthorised driving identifying as Aboriginal. Further, disqualifications impose a significant burden on the criminal justice system, with about 12 per cent of people sentenced in New South Wales being sentenced for unauthorised driving offences.

To address these issues the bill gives the Local Court power to remove outstanding driver licence disqualification periods in some circumstances; abolishes the habitual traffic offenders scheme; reduces the maximum periods of imprisonment that may be imposed for unauthorised driving offences; and creates additional sanctions for vehicles to be impounded for unauthorised driving offences and in relation to recidivist unauthorised drivers.

The Opposition did not oppose the bill stating that its measures were sensible and balanced and should be supported. The Christian Democratic Party and the Greens also supported the bill on the basis that the current driver licence disqualification framework was too harsh and that the courts should be given greater flexibility in taking into account the individual circumstances of those who have committed unauthorised driving offences.

The second and third readings of the bill were agreed to. The bill was returned to the Assembly without amendment.

Local Land Services Amendment Bill 2017

House of origin: Legislative Assembly

The bill amends the *Local Land Services Act 2013* to change the governance arrangements of Local Land Services, an organisation that provides services and advice to farmers, landholders and regional communities to improve primary production and land management. The bill also changes the criteria regarding what Local Land Services can spend on managing pest animals.

Minister Blair stated that Local Land Services is comprised of 11 regions covering the state. The services delivered in each region are overseen by a local board. In turn these local boards are overseen by a central board, named the Board of Chairs, with its membership comprised of the chairs of each of the local boards and its own chair. Under this model the Chair of the Board of Chairs is responsible for setting strategic direction and for managing the day-to-day operations of Local Land Services. The bill would change this governance structure by enabling the Minister to appoint a chief executive officer who would become responsible for the day-to-day management of Local Land Services. The Minister stated that assigning these responsibilities to a CEO would better allow the Chair and the central board (which will be renamed

from the Board of Chairs to the Local Land Services Board) to focus on critical state-wide issues. The bill also defines the strategic responsibilities of the Local Land Services Board to enhance clarity around its role and increase accountability.

Under the Act a special purpose pest insect levy is collected from ratepayers and is used exclusively to fund locust management activities. The bill amends the Act to allow the pest insect levy to be spent on managing other priority pest animals. Locust management will remain the priority and after a determination has been made regarding what funding is required for this purpose, any residual funding will be made available to fund regional pest priorities.

The Opposition did not oppose the bill but noted that the changes to the governance of Local Land Services followed a corporate audit that found that the organisation, as originally structured, had not been performing effectively. The Greens likewise supported the bill and also noted that the bill represented the Government's response to the Local Land Services governance audit that had identified deep cultural governance issues. The Animal Justice Party did not support the bill arguing that the residual funds from the locust management program will be used to kill other pest animals in a crude cost-effective manner. The Animal Justice Party argued that some of the residual funds should be allocated to funding specific research and development of more humane and non-lethal methods of introduced animal control. The Christian Democratic Party supported the bill.

The second reading of the bill was agreed to.

In committee the Greens moved amendments to require the Minister to appoint to the Local Land Services Board two persons with expertise in corporate governance and experience in the public sector; to provide that the Chair of the Local Land Services Board is to be appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Primary Industries rather than the Minister; provide that the Chair of the Local Land Services Board is required to work on a full-time basis. All the amendments were negatived on the voices. The Opposition moved an amendment to require that the Chair of the Local Land Services Board receive the same remuneration as a chair of a local board.

The third reading was agreed to and the bill was returned to the Assembly without amendment.

[Fair Trading Amendment \(Ticket Scalping and Gift Cards\) Bill 2017](#)

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill amends the *Fair Trading Act 1987* with respect to the supply of tickets to sporting or entertainment events and the expiry dates for gift cards. The bill prohibits the resale of certain tickets to sporting or entertainment events for a profit; prohibits the publication of advertisements for the resale of event tickets for a profit; prohibits the use of software to bypass the security measures of a ticketing website in order purchase tickets for an event; requires certain event organisers to publicly disclose the number of tickets made available for general public sale for certain events; prohibits the sale of gift cards with an expiry date that is earlier than three years after the date of sale of the gift card; and prohibits the imposition of any charge or fee that reduces the value of the gift card after its sale.

In his second reading speech, the Parliamentary Secretary (Mr MacDonald) stated that the bill would prioritise the needs of consumers by providing fairer access to the sale of tickets to sporting and entertainment events. The Parliamentary Secretary also stated that the bill's gift card reforms would allow consumers to have a more reasonable period of time to redeem their gift cards, whilst knowing that the value of the card would not be eaten away by fees.

Debate was adjourned for five calendar days.

[Health Practitioner Regulation Amendment Bill 2017](#)

House of origin: Legislative Council

The *Health Practitioner Regulation (Adoption of National Law) Act 2009* adopts, with modifications, the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law which is set out in the Schedule to the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* of Queensland. Earlier this year the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law was amended via the passage of legislation in Queensland.

The bill amends the *Health Practitioner Regulation (Adoption of National Law) Act 2009* to reflect the changes made to the National Law. Those changes include recognising paramedicine as a registered health profession, allowing National Boards for each health profession to be consolidated so that a single National Board may cover more than one health profession, separating the single health profession of nursing and midwifery into two health professions and making it an offence to breach a prohibition order made in any jurisdiction. The bill also makes a number of minor amendments.

The bill was introduced by Mrs Taylor (Parliamentary Secretary). In her second reading speech, the Parliamentary Secretary said that the Queensland amendments follow on from a national review of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (NRAS) for health practitioners and a decision by health Ministers to bring paramedics into the NRAS as the fifteenth registered health profession. Other amendments follow on from the statutory review of the NRAS.

Debate was adjourned for five calendar days.

Private members' business

Note: Private members' business is business introduced by members of the House other than Government ministers. There are two types of private members' business: private members' bills and private members' motions.

Bills

[Crimes Amendment \(Zoe's Law\) Bill 2017](#) (Revd Mr Nile, Christian Democratic Party)

The bill amends the Crimes Act 1900 by establishing a separate offence for conduct causing serious harm to or the destruction of a child in utero, and extending the offence of dangerous driving causing death or grievous bodily harm to dangerous driving causing the destruction of, or serious harm to, a child in utero.

Debate on the bill resumed from 4 May 2017 (see earlier House in Review). Mr MacDonald, Mr Khan and Mr Farlow underscored the complexity of the policy issues raised by the bill and commended Revd Mr Nile for raising the issue of how to seek redress in cases of serious injury or harm to an unborn child. However Mr Khan said he could not support the bill, and Mr MacDonald and Mr Farlow said that they could not support the bill in its present form, with Mr Farlow noting that one of the challenges to be resolved in the bill is the definition of a 'foetus'.

Debate was adjourned to the next sitting day.

[State Senate Bill 2015](#) (Revd Mr Nile, Christian Democratic Party)

The bill authorises the use of the term State Senate as a reference to the Legislative Council and the use of the term State Senator as a reference to a member of the Legislative Council.

Debate on the bill resumed from 10 November 2016 (see earlier House in Review). Mr Green from the Christian Democratic Party argued in support of the bill stating that it would improve public understanding regarding the role of the Legislative Council as a House of Review, as it is similar to the functions performed by the Australian Senate. Mr Green reflected that in his experience many people in the community conflated the Legislative Council with local government. Mr Green also noted that upper houses in the United States are known as state senates.

Debate was adjourned to the next sitting day.

Motion

Nuclear power in Jervis Bay (Ms Sharpe, Australian Labor Party)

The motion called on the House to note that nuclear power is dangerous, expensive and creates a legacy of waste; that the Deputy Premier and Leader of the Nationals is advocating for nuclear power to be part of the energy mix in New South Wales, including investigation of locations for nuclear reactors; that Jervis Bay was identified in the 1960s to be the site of Australia's first nuclear power plant; that the Jervis Bay community has shown fortitude in its successful opposition to nuclear power plants over many years; and that the Leader of the Government on 10 October gave a notice of motion that stated that there are no current nuclear power proposals for Jervis Bay but that this notice was subsequently withdrawn later that day. The motion also called on the Government to rule out development of a nuclear power industry in New South Wales and guarantee that no nuclear reactor will be supported for Jervis Bay or elsewhere in New South Wales.

In speaking to the motion, Ms Sharpe said that despite technical advances nuclear power remains dangerous and risky as there is still no safe, permanent solution to storing nuclear waste. Ms Sharpe said that there was confusion and alarm amongst the community because of the mixed messages coming from the Government, and that this was exacerbated by what she termed the mysterious withdrawal of the notice of motion by the Leader of the Government. Members of the Opposition speaking in support of the motion called on members of the Government to publicly state that they were not now and would never pursue nuclear power.

The Greens supported the motion and noted that one of their members gave notice of a very similar motion on 10 October that was the catalyst for the notice of motion given and subsequently withdrawn by the Leader of the Government. The Greens also stated their strong concerns over nuclear power as a proposed energy option. The Greens argued that the community was understandably perturbed by the public comments by the Deputy Premier advocating a dialogue on nuclear power.

Members of the Government spoke in opposition to the motion, labelling it an opportunistic political stunt that unnecessarily raised alarm among communities. The Government stated that it was well understood that nuclear power was not a viable option, and as such was not being considered, for a range of reasons. In particular the Government noted that nuclear power was expensive and would put upward pressure on costs and that this would be the last thing the Government would seek.

In speaking to the motion, the Leader of the Government (Minister Harwin) asserted the reason why he withdrew his earlier motion was that he had decided, on reflection, to give a broader notice of motion that more fully confirmed the Government's position. The Leader of the Government said that aim could now be achieved by an amendment he moved to Ms Sharpe's motion to instead have the House note that Nuclear for Climate Australia has identified 12 possible regions in New South Wales for construction of nuclear power generation; legislation in New South Wales prohibits the development of nuclear power generation; and that there are no proposals for the Government to change current legislation or policy settings on this issue, and that the Government has committed to maintaining them.

The Government amendment was agreed to and the motion, as amended was agreed to.

Motions taken as formal business

The following items of private members' business were agreed to as formal business without amendment or debate:

- (1) Hunter Wetlands Centre (Mr MacDonald).
- (2) NSW Ambulance Service and Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service Belmont base (Mr MacDonald).
- (3) Charly Thorn (Mrs Taylor).
- (4) 2017 Australian Society of Medical Research gala dinner (Mr MacDonald).
- (5) Royal Australian Agricultural Society Foundation Rural Scholarships (Mr MacDonald).
- (6) Bluewater Country Music Festival (Mr MacDonald).
- (7) 2017 Tuggerah Lakes Local Area Command Awards (Mr MacDonald).
- (8) 20th anniversary of Family Drug Support (Dr Faruqi).
- (9) Compass Housing Services (Mr MacDonald).
- (10) Emmanuel Anglican College Year 12 students (Mr Franklin).
- (11) 2017 New South Wales Youth Council Conference (Dr Faruqi).
- (12) 2017 Griffith Spring Fest citrus sculptures (Mrs Taylor).
- (13) NSW Training Awards Top Apprentice Award (Mr MacDonald).
- (14) Biala Support Services and Special School (Mr Franklin).
- (15) Passing of Dr Frederick Shaw Burton (Mr MacDonald).
- (16) Northern New South Wales women's football (Mr MacDonald).
- (17) Wyong Women's Health Centre (Mr MacDonald).
- (18) NSW Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout (Mr MacDonald).

Petitions received

- (1) Treaty now – 183 signatures (presented by Mr Shoebridge).
- (2) Opposition to Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2017 – 35,003 signatures (presented by Mr Donnelly).

Committee activities

Committee reference

Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health and Community Services: The Chair informed the House that on 28 September 2017 the committee resolved to conduct an inquiry into the provision of drug rehabilitation services in regional, rural and remote New South Wales.

Committee reports tabled

Legislation Review Committee: 'Legislation Review Digest No. 44/56', dated 10 October 2017.

Committee on the Healthcare Complaints Commission: 'Review of the Healthcare Complaints Commission Annual Report 2015/16', dated October 2017.

Committee reports debated

Standing Committee on Law and Justice: The House concluded the take note debate on Report No. 62 entitled 'First review of the Lifetime Care and Support scheme', dated August 2017.

Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education: The House continued the take note debate on Report No. 37 entitled 'Education of students with a disability or special needs in New South Wales', dated September 2017.

Committee on the Independent Commission Against Corruption: The House continued the take note debate on Report No. 3/56 entitled 'Review of the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 annual reports of the ICAC Inspector', dated September 2017.

Government response

Standing Committee on Law and Justice:

Response received to the report entitled 'First review of the workers compensation scheme', tabled 9 March 2017, received out of session and authorised to be printed on 3 October 2017.

Inquiry activities

Select Committee on Human Trafficking

The committee has finalised its report which will be tabled on 19 October 2017.

Select Committee on Electricity Supply, Demand and Prices in New South Wales

The closing date for submissions is 16 October 2017. The committee will hold its first hearing on 31 October, with a second hearing scheduled for 17 November 2017.

Standing Committee on State Development

Inquiry into regional development and a global Sydney

The committee has received 37 submissions and has held hearings in Sydney, Nowra, Orange, the Tweed and Armidale. Further regional visits and hearings will be held in the coming months.

Defence industry in New South Wales

The committee has received 36 submissions and has held six public hearings. The committee will conduct a public hearing in Queanbeyan and site visit to Adelaide in October 2017. The committee intends to publish a discussion paper towards the end of the year.

Standing Committee on Law and Justice

Statutory review of the State Insurance and Care Governance Act 2015

The closing date for submissions is Tuesday 31 October 2017. The committee will hold a hearing on Tuesday 7 November 2017.

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance:

Inquiry into Alcoholic Beverages Advertising Prohibition Bill 2015

The closing date for submissions is Sunday 12 November 2017. Hearings will be held in the coming months.

Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health and Community Services

Inquiry into road tolling

The report is currently being drafted. The committee is expected to report by November 2017.

Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Legal Affairs

Inquiry into museums and galleries

The committee is considering holding a further hearing. The report is due to be tabled by 1 March 2018.

Emergency services agencies

The committee has received more than 190 submissions to date. The committee will hold another public hearing on 10 November 2017.

Fire and emergency services levy

The closing date for submissions is 26 November 2017.

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Industry and Transport

Inquiry into water augmentation for rural and regional New South Wales

The committee has received 116 submissions and held 11 hearings in Sydney and regional areas. The committee will hold its next hearing in Sydney on 20 November 2017.

Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Planning and Environment

Inquiry into energy from waste technology

The committee will conduct a site visit in October and anticipates reporting by the end of the year.

Privileges Committee

Inquiry into procedural fairness for inquiry participants

The committee has published a discussion paper to assist stakeholders to make submissions. The closing date for submissions is 6 November 2017.

Adjournment debate

Tuesday 10 October 2017

Violence Against Women (Dr Faruqi); Sexual Exploitation (Mr Donnelly); GFG Alliance (Mr MacDonald); Rohingya People Genocide (Mr Moselmane); Move Muscle, Bone and Joint Health (Mr Franklin); Shoalhaven and Southern Highlands Youth Unemployment (Mr Field).

Wednesday 11 October 2017

Cootamundra By-Election (Mr Veitch); Parliamentary Democracy (Revd Mr Nile); University of Sydney Business School (Dr Phelps); Affordable Housing/Workers Compensation Scheme (Mr Mookhey); Adani Carmichael Coalmine Proposal (Mr Buckingham); Marriage Equality Plebiscite (Mr Khan).

Thursday 12 October 2017

Zoos (Mr Pearson); Same-Sex Marriage Postal Survey (Mr Clarke); Food Security (Mrs Houssos); Tane Chatfield Death in Custody (Mr Shoebridge); Parliamentary Friends of Music/Waterloo Public Housing Estate Redevelopment (Mr Graham); Gun control (Ms Cusack).

Feedback on *House in Review*

We welcome any comments you might have on this publication.

We are particularly keen to know which parts of the *House in Review* you find most useful and whether you have any suggestions for improvement. Please email your comments to

stephen.frappell@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

All responses will be kept strictly confidential.



David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments